

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Michael F. Hoey et al. Docket No.: M190.133.102  
Serial No.: Pending  
Filed: Herewith  
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CREATING, MAINTAINING, AND  
CONTROLLING A VIRTUAL ELECTRODE USED FOR THE ABLATION OF  
TISSUE

**Continuation Application of:**

Applicant: Michael F. Hoey et al. Examiner: Michael F. Peffley  
Serial No.: 09/903,296 Group Art Unit: 3739  
Filed: July 11, 2001 Docket No.: M190.133.101  
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CREATING, MAINTAINING, AND  
CONTROLLING A VIRTUAL ELECTRODE USED FOR THE ABLATION OF  
TISSUE

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Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment modifies the Continuation Patent Application filed herewith. Please amend the above-identified application as follows: